

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-06 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 /081 W

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O P 170222Z DEC 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3538

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONGEN CAPETOWN PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL USUN 6000

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, WA

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL: NAMIBIA

REF: USUN 5999

1. DRAFT RES ON NAMIBIA (REFTEL) EMERGED AFTER
CONSULTATIONS WHICH BEGAN LAST WEEK. DESPITE
CONSIDERABLE PRESSURES FROM SOME MILITAANT AFRICANS
AS WELL AS CHINA, AFRICAN MEMBERS OF COUNCIL HAVE
COME UP WITH MORE MODERATE RES THAN WE EXPECTED. IN
MEETING WITH US, FRENCH AND UK REPS BEFORE SC CONSULTA-
TIONS AFTERNOON DEC 16 MAURITANIAN PERMREP SAID AFRICANS
WILLING TO ACCEPT CONSENSUS BUT NOT IF THIS WERE TO BE
ACCOMPANIED BY STATEMENTS OF RESERVATIONS. IF NON-
AFRICAN SC MEMBERS WISH TO STATE RESERVATIONS, AFRICANS
WOULD PREFER THAT RES BE PUT TO VOTE.

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2. HOWEVER, IF THERE WERE TO BE ANY ABSTENTIONS BY

WESTERN MEMBERS OF SC, AFRICANS WOULD SUBMIT TOUGHER TEXT THAN THAT TRANSMITTED REFTEL, PROBABLY SIMILAR TO THEIR ORIGINAL DRAFT.

3. IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION WE, SUPPORTED BY BRITISH, INSISTED ON ADDITION OF PHRASE "FOR POLITICAL REASONS" IN PARA 5(D) WHICH NOW READS: "ACCORD UNCONDITIONALLY TO ALL NAMIBIANS CURRENTLY IN EXILE FOR POLITICAL REASONS FULL FACILITIES FOR RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY WITHOUT RISK OF ARREST, DETENTION, INTIMIDATION, OR IMPRISONMENT."

4. BOTH BRITISH AND FRENCH ARE RECOMMENDING AFFIRMATIVE VOTES TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND WILL STATE THEIR RESERVATIONS IN EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE.

5. PRESENT SCENARIO IS TO VOTE ON RES DURING SC MORNING SESSION DEC 17 ON ASSUMPTION THAT THERE IS AGREEMENT BEFOREHAND. VALUE OF THIS PROCEDURE IS THAT RES LESS LIKELY TO BE CHANGED BECAUSE OF SOVIET, CHINESE OR OTHER OBJECTIONS, AND SECONDLY THAT VOTE WILL NOT BE PRECEDED BY SERIES OF SPEECHES COMPLAINING ABOUT ITS RELATIVE MILDNESS. WE WOULD EXPECT SOME, PERHAPS INCLUDING NON-MEMBERS, TO SPEAK BEFORE THE VOTE. HOWEVER WE ANTICIPATE VOTE IN MORNING SESSION.

6. RECOMMENDATION: IN VIEW OF THE ATTITUDE OF BRITISH AND FRENCH, RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE RELATIVE MODERATION OF DRAFT RES, WE STRONGLY URGE WE BE INSTRUCTED TO VOTE AFFIRMATIVELY ON DRAFT RES WITH EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTER THE VOTE.

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